



## **URBAN FORESTRY BOARD MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, March 21, 2012**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Hayes called the Board Meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

### **Board Members in Attendance:**

**Vice Chair Tom Hayes, Peggy Maceo, Nick Classen, Ryan Fleming, Christopher Kite, April Rose**

### **Staff in Attendance:**

**Parks and Recreation Department: Walter Passmore, Urban Forestry Program Manager**

**Charles Vaclavik, Division Manager**

**Gwendolyn McGee, Administrative Specialist**

**D'Anne Williams, Landscape Architect/Trails Coordinator**

**Ray Henning-Austin Energy: Line Clearance Superintendent**

**Michael Embesi, City Arborist Planning and Development Review Department**

### **1. Approve the minutes of the Urban Forestry Board's regular meeting of March 21, 2012.**

The minutes for the Urban Forestry Board's March 21, 2012 regular meeting, were approved on Board Member Rose's motion, Board Member Kite's second, on a 4-0 vote. Board Chair Brewer, and Board Members Fleming and Maceo were off the dais

### **2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

Cynthia Wilcox

Sharon Blythe

### **3. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Board Member Rose made three (3) announcements

- There would be a meeting regarding the City Bond package and it would be open to public input online or citizens could attend the public meetings. She did not have an exact date but wanted to inform the board.
- There will be a public meeting regarding the Water Conservation Code and she is not sure of the date but believes it will be March 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Tree Folks has been a contractor for the city's neighborhood Street Tree Planting program for ten (10) years and that will end in June. She said she might encourage the Board to consider writing a letter of support for the program and she would present more information at next month's meeting as to how it works.

### **4. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

- a. D'Anne Williams-Landscape Architect/Trails Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Department presented a briefing regarding the Urban Trails Master Plan
- b. Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Planning and Development Review Department presented his monthly update.

- c. Ray Henning, Lince Clearance Superintendent, Austin Energy, presented his monthly report.

## **5. EXECUTIVE LIAISON'S REPORT**

Walter Passmore, Urban Forestry Program Manager, presented briefings on the following items:

- a. Sustainable Land Management
- b. Future Forest Initiative
- c. Partnership agreement with UT
- d. Cottonwood tree at Lou Neff Point
- e. Tree maintenance contract
- f. Public meeting scheduled for Comprehensive Forestry Plan

## **6. NEW BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. Action Item: Review and take action on Cemetery Tree Report and letter to City Council:**

A motion was made by Board Member Classen to approve the letter to Council with changes to read: The Urban Forestry Board has approved all recommendations included in this report, and added to the second paragraph to precede the sentence (The recommended actions for improved cemetery tree management include); motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Board Member Maceo . The motion was approved with the following friendly amendment by Vice Chair Hayes to remove the words (highly stressed) from the letter in paragraph 2, in the first sentence. The friendly amendment from Vice Chair Hayes was accepted by Board Member Classen and second by Board. Kite, approved on a vote of 6-0 to send letter with attached Cemetery Tree Report to Mayor and Council.

### **2. Action Item: Review and take action on Volunteer Projects Management**

Motion was made by Board Member Fleming to approve the Volunteer Project proposal with the addition of identified attachments. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Board Member Kite, approved on a 6-0 vote.

### **3. Review Item: Review UFB 2012 Goals:**

Items were reviewed by Vice Chair Tom Hayes

### **4. Review and take action on Heritage Tree transplanting.**

No action taken; item was postponed until a later date.

### **5. Review and take action on UFB direct participation on Interdepartmental Tree Task Force Meetings.**

No action was taken and item was postponed until a later date.

### **6. Discuss and form a UFB Working Group to review the effect of the downtown Heritage Tree Ordinance.**

Vice Chair Hayes and Board Member Maceo volunteered to be on the group.

### **7. Discuss and make motion for UFB purview to include the entire Urban Forest on both public and private parcels.**

Item postponed until later date.

## **7. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Hayes adjourned the meeting without object at 9:30 p.m.